

CLAIMS

1. A closure casing (11) having two co-operating closure members (12, 13, 17, 18) defining an enclosed space between them when in a juxtaposed closure position, 5 characterised in that there are provided means for holding the closure members (12, 13) together in the closure position comprising at least one over-centre or toggle clamp mechanism (26) one part (28) of which passes through openings (21) in the closure members (17, 18) which are aligned when the closure members (17, 18) are in the said closure position, and engages a face of the closure member (18) remote from the other 10 part (27) of the toggle clamp mechanism (26), which other part (27) is turnable between a clamped position in which tension is applied to the said one part (28) and a release position.

2. A closure casing (11) according to Claim 1, characterised in that at least one (18) 15 of the closure members (17, 18) has a resilient element (24) engageable by a part (28) of the said toggle clamp mechanism (26) and operable to apply a resilient resistance to the clamping movement thereof whereby to hold the clamp mechanism (26) in its locking position when moved thereto against the resistance exerted by the resilient element (24).

20 3. A closure casing (11) according to Claim 2, characterised in that the resilient element (24) is a laminar resilient strip overlying a surface portion of the casing.

4. A closure casing (11) according to Claim 3, characterised in that the said closure members (12, 13) are co-operating half shells having respective flanges (17, 18) around 25 perimetral rims thereof, which are brought together when the casing is closed, and in that the said resilient element (24) comprises a strip or stringer lying along the length of at least one flange (18).

5. A closure casing (11) according to Claim 4, characterised in that the flanges (17, 30 18) have a cavity therein adjacent the or each opening (21) through which passes the said one part (28) of the toggle clamp mechanism (26) and across which the said resilient strip (24) spans.

6. A closure casing (11) according to any preceding Claim, characterised in that the said one part (28) of the toggle clamp mechanism (26) has a transverse projection (29) for engaging the face of the closure member (18) remote from the other part (27) of toggle clamp mechanism (26).

7. A closure casing (11) according to any of Claims 4 to 6 characterised in that there are a plurality of openings (21) in the flanges (17, 18) of the said closure members (12,13) and a plurality of toggle clamp mechanisms (26) spaced around at least part of the periphery of the closure members (12,13).

8. A closure casing (11) according to Claim 6, characterised in that the said transverse projection (29) of the said one part (28) of the toggle clamp mechanism (26) is a hooked end thereof for engagement with the said face of the closure member (18) remote from the other part (27) of the clamp mechanism (26).

9. A closure casing (11) according to any preceding Claim, in which the said other part (27) of the toggle clamp mechanism (26) comprises a body portion having two parallel flanges (33, 34) with respective aligned openings or cavities (37) for receiving respective pivot pins (30, 31) of the said one member (28) such that the said one member (28) is located, in use, between the said two parallel flanges (33, 34), and an operating tab or lever (38) which lies substantially parallel to the surface of the co-operating closure member (17) when the clamp (26) is in its locking position.

10. A closure casing (11) according to Claim 9, characterised in that the said body portion of the said other part (27) of the toggle clamp mechanism (26) has a face (40) extending generally transversely of the operating tab or lever (38) serving as a release member against which, in use, is applied a force to release the clamp (26) from its locking position.

11. A closure casing (11) according to any preceding Claim characterised in that it has a plurality of toggle clamps (26) spaced along at least part of the perimeter thereof

and a sealing member (20) located inwardly of the clamps (26) for sealing the interior volume of the casing (11) when closed.

12. A closure casing according to any preceding Claim, characterised in that there 5 are provided means (102, 103; 100, 104) to resist the release of the or each toggle claim mechanism (26).

13. A closure casing (11) according to Claim 12 characterised in that the means (102, 103) to resist the release of the or each toggle clamp (26) act to resist movement of 10 the said other part (27) of the or each toggle clamp (26) from its clamped to its release position.

14. A closure casing (11) according to Claim 12, characterised in that the means to resist the release of the or each toggle clamp (26) act to resist the withdrawal the said 15 one part (28) of the or each toggle clamp (26) through the openings (21) in the closure members (17, 18).

15. A closure casing (11) according to any of Claims 12 to 14, characterised in that the means (102, 103; 100, 104) to resist release of the or each toggle clamp (26) 20 comprise at least one aperture (100; 103) in a member of the toggle clamp mechanism (26) engageable by cooperating removable obstruction means (102; 104).

16. A closure casing (11) according to any of Claims 2 to 15, characterised in that the said at least one resilient element is relatively displaceable with respect to the 25 adjacent closure member (18) so as to reduce the effective dimensions of the openings (21, 25) through which the said one part (28) of the toggle clamp (26) passes whereby to obstruct withdrawal thereof.

17. A closure casing (11) according to Claim 16, characterised in that the said 30 resilient element (24) is retained in a channel which allows longitudinal movement thereof.

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18. A closure casing (11) according to Claim 17, characterised in that the said channel includes at least a part which is not rectilinear so as to apply stress to the resilient element when the channel and resilient element are in a juxtaposed position.

5 19. A closure casing (11) according to any preceding claim, characterised in that the over-centre or toggle clamp mechanism (26) has means (106) for engagement by a tool whereby to assist in turning the said other part (27) of the mechanism.

20. A closure casing (11) according to Claim 19, characterised in that the said means
10 for engagement by a tool comprise at least one cavity (106) in the said other part (27) of the toggle clamp mechanism.

21. A closure casing (11) having two co-operating closure members (17, 18) defining an enclosed space between them when in a juxtaposed closure position, characterised in
15 that there are provided closure means (26) in the form of at least one toggle clamp mechanism comprising two relatively turnable parts (27, 28) which can be moved in relation to one another between an over-centre clamping or locking position in which the two parts apply a closure pressure to the two co-operating closure members, and a release position, and in that at least one of the closure members (17, 18) carries a
20 resilient element (22, 24) which is stressed by the toggle clamp mechanism (26) when the parts thereof are in its clamping position, whereby to apply a resisting force to maintain the parts (27, 28) of the toggle clamp (26) in their over-centre position and the two closure members (17, 18) pressed against one another.

25 22. An over-centre or toggle clamp mechanism for holding together two co-operating members (17, 18) of a closure casing, comprising two clamp parts (27, 28) which are pivotally interengaged or interengageable, one clamp part (28) being adapted to pass through aligned openings (21, 23, 25) in the said two co-operating closure members (17, 18) and engage the closure member (18) remote from the other clamp part (27, 47), the
30 said one clamp part being a unitary member having at least one transverse projection (29; 49) for engagement with the said remote closure member (18).

23. An over-centre or toggle clamp mechanism according to Claim 22, characterised in that the said one clamp part (27; 48) is turnable about an axis parallel to its length whereby to turn the transverse projection (49) between engagement and release positions with respect to the said remote closure member (18).

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